

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 25, 2005 (BOS Mtg. 8/16/05)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator 

SUBJECT: Replacement of Hydraulic Rescue Tools and Associated Equipment

The York County Department of Fire and Life Safety has identified a need to replace its aging hydraulic rescue tool systems. The units currently in use have exceeded their expected useful life and routinely experience significant maintenance and reliability issues. Hydraulic rescue tools are used by the firefighters to free entangled patients from motor vehicles, machinery, and other entrapment situations. Commonly known as "the Jaws of Life," they are used on a frequent basis, particularly along Interstate 64 and Route 17.

As a result of this need, the department sought various funding sources beyond the County General Fund in order to replace this equipment. As a result, the department was successful in obtaining competitive Rescue Squad Assistance Grant funds from the Virginia Office of EMS, along with funds donated by the Fire and Rescue Volunteers, as well as previously appropriated grant funds from other sources, such as from the U. S. Department of Homeland Security and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. Through this action, the need to fund the replacement of this essential equipment through the County General Fund is avoided.

A competitive bid process was conducted, which resulted in the determination that Commonwealth Rescue Systems, Inc., was the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder, and thus is the recommended vendor. The procurement has been conducted in accordance with State procurement laws and/or County procurement policy.

If adopted, proposed Resolution R05-141 will appropriate the grant and donated funds and authorize the County Administrator to procure the necessary hydraulic rescue tools and associated equipment in the amount of \$142,024.

I recommend approval of proposed Resolution R05-141.

Kopczynski/3612:ese